Additional Collector of Customs and Central Excise, Allahabad Collectorate was shot at, in the evening of 24-3-1993 by unidentified assailants. The matter is under investigation by the CID of the State Police.

(e) The question of *ex gratia* payment under the CCS Pension Rules, 1972 to the dependents of Shri Arora, is under consideration.

Grants of DA and Bonus to Central Government Employees

162. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have so far taken any decision for or against granting of DA/Bonus to Central Government employees;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any budgetary provisions have been made in the current year for this purpose; if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the Financial Express dated the 7th April, 1993 captioned "any move to freeze payment of dearness allowance (DA) and Bonus for one year" might lead to widespread work stoppages and agitations by Trade Unions like CITU. (The Centre of Indian Trade Unions and BMS. The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh etc.;

(e) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto; and

(f) by when the decision is likely to be announced by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (f) The additional instalment of dearness allowance due from 1-1-93 to the Central government employees has since been released. Bonus is normally paid to the Central government employees in September/October every year. Therefore, a decision on grant of bonus would be taken at the appropriate time.

The expenditure on additional dearness allowance is required to be absorbed by all Ministries/Departments within the approved budget provision for the year 1993-94.

Detentions under COFEPOSA

163. SHRI MOHAMMED SALIM :
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN :
SHRI M. A. BABY :
SHRI ASHIS SEN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of persons detained under COFEPOSA during the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and so far in 1993 with year-wise details;

(b) whether there is any declining trend, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the details of remedial measures taken to check the said decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The number of persons detained under COFEPOSA during the years 1990 onwards year-wise is given below :

Calendar Year	No. of persons detained
1990	749
1991	751
1992	423
1993 (Upto 31st March)	80

In 1992 and upto 31st March, 1993, there has been a decline.

(c) Government is fully alert and vigilant in its anti-smuggling efforts.

Customs duty on integrated circuits

164. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a graded customs duty structure for raw materials, piece parts and components;

(b) if so, what are the percentages for these;

(c) what is the percentage of customs duty levied on integrated circuits;

(d) what is the percentage of customs duty levied on the diffused IC chips in the form of silicon transfers which is imported as raw material for the manufacture of the integrated circuits;

(e) whether it is a fact that a higher duty is levied for the constituent raw material input than the duty levied on the finished products; and

(f) if so, whether it will not affect the manufacture of the finished product in India as the raw material has to be imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (c) Government have prescribed, subject to certain conditions, graded concessional import duty structure for specified items of raw materials, piece parts and components used in the electronics industry.

With effect from 28-2-1993, the rates of import duty are as under :—

(i) on specified raw materials .. 20%

(ii) on specified piece parts .. 35%

(iii) on specified electronic components including integrated circuits .. 50%

In addition, the above items attract appropriate additional duty of customs (countervailing duty) leviable under Section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(d) Silicon in the form of diffused wafers, disc or chips for manufacture of hybrid micro-circuits or semi-conductor devices attracts a total import duty of 75%.

(e) and (f) To the extent feasible import duty on raw materials is kept at a lower level than on the finished products, so that products manufactured in India are not affected.

Setting up of branches of commercial banks in Andhra Pradesh

165. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up new branches of different commercial banks in Andhra Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the location identified for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not fixed any State-wise or Year-wise targets for opening of bank branches. Under the new branch licensing policy, the banks which have attained the revised capital adequacy norms and prudential accounting standards will be given freedom to set up new branches. Under the new policy, RBI has allotted 159 centres to public sector banks for opening their branches in Andhra Pradesh. Locations of these centres are given in the statement.